
**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Third Meeting
Aktau, 10-12 August 2011**

Items 5 and 13 of the provisional agenda

**UNIFIED REPORTING FORMAT FOR THE TEHRAN CONVENTION AND
PROTOCOLS****Note by the interim Secretariat****Introduction.**

1. The regular reporting by the Contracting Parties is envisaged by the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention), in accordance to which:

- each National Authority shall submit “reports on measures adopted for the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and its Protocols in format and at intervals to be determined by the Conference of the Parties” (Article 27);
- the Contracting Parties shall “co-operate in the development of procedures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Convention or its Protocols” (Article 28) and “exchange on a regular basis information, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention”;
- the Contracting Parties “shall endeavour to ensure public access to environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea, measures taken or planned to be taken to prevent, control and reduce pollution of the Caspian Sea in accordance with their national legislation” (Article 21).

2. The Strategic Action Programme of the Tehran Convention (SCAP) proposes Parties to develop a centralised database which will serve as basis for decision-making and as a general source of information and education for specialists, administrators and the general public (4.3), as well as ensure public access to information regarding the environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea, measures taken or planned to be taken to prevent, control and reduce pollution in accordance with their national legislation taking into account provisions of existing international agreements concerning public access to environmental information (4.5).

3. The development of a standard format for national reporting of the Contracting Parties of the Tehran Convention was undertaken upon their request, and in line with the provisions of the Convention. The draft document was discussed during two meetings: the Meeting on a Shared Environmental Information and Monitoring System for the Caspian Sea, 9-10 September 2009, Ashgabad, Turkmenistan, and the Meeting of Senior Officials on Procedural and Institutional Issues of the Tehran Convention, 25-29 May 2010, Geneva, Switzerland.

4. During the latter meeting it was agreed that the standard reporting format will be submitted to the third Meeting Conference of the Parties through its PrepCom for adoption by consensus as proposed frame and guidance for reporting by the Contracting Parties on the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its protocols upon their entry into force. The objective of the standard reporting format is to provide effective informational support and monitoring of the Convention implementation processes and its Protocols at the national level. The information contained in the relevant national reports and their assessment should become the ground for cooperating in the implementation of the Tehran Convention and should provide the basis for decision-making under the Convention.

5. This proposed format takes into account the features of existing environmental reporting systems in the Caspian littoral states. At the same time, the standard reporting format ensures congruency of the information provided and promotes the comparability of the presented data in these reports.

6. Based on the fact that the Tehran Convention as a framework legal document addresses a broad range of environmental concerns and at the same time envisages a number of concrete obligations for environmental protection, the presented format for national reporting of the Parties corresponds to the structure of the Convention itself while taking into account the provisions of SCAP and four ancillary protocols.

Suggested Action

7. The Conference of the Parties may wish to:
- a) consider and adopt the Unified Reporting Format as the guiding framework for reporting by the Caspian States on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea and its protocols, upon their entry into force;
 - b) request the (interim) Secretariat to coordinate and prepare the first report on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth Meeting.

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Annex 1

**FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF
THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CASPIAN SEA**

REPORTING FORMAT

General Information¹

1. Reporting Party

Contracting Party	
Reporting period	
National Focal Point	
Full name of the institution	
Name of the National Focal Point	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	
Contact point for the national report	
Full name of the institution	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	
Signature of the NFP	
Date of submission	

2. National organisations providing data for the compilation of the report

Please provide information on the preparation of the present report, including stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the preparation.

Full name of the institution	
Name of the contact point (optional)	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	

Full name of the institution	
Name of the contact point (optional)	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	

Full name of the institution	
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¹ This format provides in regular font the requirements of the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols. The explanations and recommendations on how to complete the relevant format sections are provided in italic font. References to the text of the Protocols are provided in brackets after the text in regular font, while in all other cases the text of the Convention itself is implied.

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Name of the contact point (optional)	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	

Full name of the institution	
Name of the contact point (optional)	
Mailing address	
Tel	
Fax	
Email	

3. References

Please list the documents used for the preparation of the national report.

In cases of partial matching of information provided in and among the sections the Parties are invited to present the cross-references to avoid duplication.

4. Volume

It is assumed that the volume of the national report should not exceed 100 pages, including possible addenda/annexes.

Introduction

5. Information about the status of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols in your country.

Please briefly update on the status of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols, their implications for the international cooperation and national legal and policy frameworks for the environment protection of the Caspian.

Part 1. General Provisions

6. Implementation of the Tehran Convention in your country

Please list general legal, institutional, economic and other measures for the Tehran Convention implementation and its Protocols adopted in your country during the reporting period.

Please, describe the activities carried out for the implementation of the obligations under the Tehran Convention on the protection of the Caspian marine environment in various sectoral and intersectoral plans/programmes of your country (apart from the field of ecology and environmental protection).

7. Cooperation of the Parties to the Convention with each other to protect, preserve and restore the marine environment of the Caspian Sea; to prevent, reduce and control pollution; as well as to use the resources of the Caspian Sea in such a way as not to cause harm to the marine environment. (Article 4 para. a-c and Article 18 of the Convention).

Please briefly characterize areas of cooperation undertaken by your country in line with the above mentioned obligations, including with regard to the SCAP and other joint plans/programmes of action etc.

8. Cooperation of the Contracting Parties with each other, third parties, including competent international institutions for the achievement of the objective of this Convention (Article 4 para.d and Article 18 para. 1).

Please indicate bilateral agreements with Caspian states, which your country is a party to, as well as with what international institutions and multilateral environmental agreements your country is carrying out the cooperation.

9. Cooperation of the Parties to the Convention with each other to develop the procedures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Convention and its Protocols, as well as development of rules and procedures concerning liability and compensation for damage to the environment of the Caspian Sea resulting from violations of the provisions of this Convention and its Protocols (Articles 28 and 29).

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Does your country apply rules and procedures of relevant bilateral and multilateral international treaties in force?

Part 2. Review of activities for the implementation of the provisions of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols

Prevention, Reduction and Control of Pollution

Pollution from Land-Based Sources (Article 7, Tehran Convention and draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (hereinafter LBSA Protocol)).

10. Implementation of national action plans for achieving substantial reductions of inputs of pollutants from point sources on the basis of the list of hot-spots (Article 7 para. 2 LBSA Protocol).

Has your country developed and/or implemented any national action plans or programmes to eliminate or reduce pollution from land-based sources/activities? If so, please provide information in detail concerning the concrete targets to be attained and the types of measures and policies adopted within the framework of the national action plan/programme, the status of their implementation, the implementing entities, a quantitative estimation of the impact of their implementation and an estimation of the implementation costs, including economic cost.

	<i>a) national action plan</i>	<i>b) programme</i>
<i>No</i>		
<i>No, it is in the early stage of development</i>		
<i>No, but it is in an advanced stage of development</i>		
<i>Yes, it has been developed and is already being implemented (provide details below including the information mentioned above)</i>		

11. Conservation and full liquidation should be taken for some coastal sources of pollution that continue to have negative impact on the Caspian Sea.

Please provide the existence of warehouses, sites, etc. of solid consumer wastes and oil development wastes that do not meet the environmental requirements. Please indicate the technologies for their disposal applied.

12. Establishment of requirements stricter than those provided for in the LBSA Protocol in accordance with other protocols to the Convention when the water quality and the state the Caspian ecosystem so requires.

Please provide the availability of such stricter requirements.

13. Licensing/permitting by the national authorities of waste-water discharges for prevention, reduction and control of pollution from land-based sources is.

Please provide the availability of relevant national systems/procedures for obtaining licenses/permits.

14. Application of various types of waste water treatment, including where necessary a gradual approach of municipal waste water treatment.

Please describe trends in the change of polluted waste water emission amounts compared to the previous reporting period and to the first report since the Convention entered into force.

Provide the amount of sewage discharged by industrial and agricultural enterprises, communal services etc.

Please provide the availability of treatment facilities and plans/programmes for their re-construction.

Provide the amounts of untreated sewage discharged.

Briefly describe the systems of waste waters discharge control.

15. Application of low- and non-waste technology for the prevention, reduction and control of emissions of pollutants.

Please indicate the number of objects where the relevant technologies have been improved, and specify the related changes in the amount of emissions.

16. Application of the best available techniques (BAT) to reduce the hazardous substances load (including organic substances) from diffuse sources, in particular those from agricultural production (Article 8 para. 2, LBSA Protocol).

Please provide the application of BAT techniques in your country.

17. Pollution load from watercourses, which flow through the territories of two or more Contracting Parties or form a boundary between them (Article 11 para. 2, LBSA Protocol).

Please indicate, what kind of measures does your country apply to address the relevant issues?

Please provide the availability of joint bodies to address the relevant issues.

18. Establishment of a system of regular inspection and survey that regulates emissions into the environment (Protocol, Article 7 para. 4, LBSA Protocol).

Please indicate its availability and functions.

19. Point source emissions shall be subject to authorisation or regulation by the competent national authorities (Article 7 para. 3, LBSA Protocol).

Please provide data on the progress compared to the previous reporting period and to the first report – since the Convention entered into force.

20. Methods of control of emissions from diffuse sources of pollution (Article 8 para. 1, LBSA Protocol).

Please briefly provide the characteristics of such methods you apply in your country.

Pollution from Seabed Activities (Article 8, Tehran Convention)

21. Prevention, control and reduction of pollution of the Caspian Sea resulting from seabed activities.

Has your country developed any legislation requiring prior written authorization for seabed activities? Has your country taken the necessary administrative measures to implement this legislation?

Has your country taken any steps, including the establishment of legislation and of institutional structures and the establishment and application of administrative measures, to ensure that safety measures with regard to the design, construction, placement, equipment, marking, operation and maintenance of installations were taken?

Please indicate the existence of suspended wells at the Caspian seabed and measures taken to ensure their environmental safety in your country.

Pollution from Vessels (Article 9, Tehran Convention)

22. Prevention, reduction and control of pollution from vessels.

Please indicate the available national instruments in your country to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the Caspian Sea marine environment from vessels, adopted according to corresponding international treaties?

Does your country take any measures to prevent pollution of the Caspian Sea from vessels in line with the requirements indicated above? Briefly provide the relevant instances and experience gained in your country that could be useful for other Contracting Parties.

Please list activities in your country to ensure the environmental safety of off-shore exploration, extraction, processing, and transportation of hydrocarbons at the Caspian.

Indicate environmental safety technologies for off-shore exploration, extraction, processing, and transportation of hydrocarbons in the Caspian Sea used in your country (for instance, "zero discharge" etc.).

Please indicate the availability of waste management plans for ports in your country, as well as facilities for the reception and treatment of waste from vessels on the Caspian Sea.

Pollution Caused by Dumping (Article 10, Tehran Convention)

23. Prevention, hindrance, reduction and control pollution of the Caspian Sea caused by dumping from vessels and aircrafts registered in their territory or flying their flag.

Dumping in case it appears to be the only way of averting threats to human or marine life in order to minimise the likelihood of damage to human or marine life.

Please provide information on such incidents in your country.

Has your country developed any legislation for prohibiting the dumping of wastes and other matters from vessels in the Caspian Sea?

Has your country taken the necessary administrative measures for prohibiting the dumping of wastes and other matters from vessels in the Caspian Sea?

Has your country developed criteria, guidelines and procedures within the established permitting scheme at the national level in order to ensure that the dumping of such wastes does not result in pollution?

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Has your country developed any legislation to establish maritime inspection of ships and aircrafts or other services to report any incidents on or conditions of the Caspian Sea if dumping had occurred or was about to occur?

Has your country already set up such an inspection structure for the Caspian Sea? Does your country sufficiently maintain and improve the infrastructure established to prevent these problems?

Pollution from Other Human Activities (Article 11, Tehran Convention and draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities)

24. Protection of petroleum and chemical facilities and oil contaminated lands at the Caspian Sea coast under potential threat of inundation and decommissioning of obsolete on-shore installations and storage facilities (Article 9, LBSA Protocol).

Please indicate activities related to exploration, extraction, processing and transportation of hydrocarbons in the Caspian coastal and marine areas of your country.

Please provide information on the existence of suspended wells and facilities in coastal and marine Caspian areas of your country.

Indicate the environmental safety technologies used for off-shore exploration, extraction, processing, and transportation of hydrocarbons in coastal and marine Caspian areas of your country (for instance, “zero discharge” etc.).

25. Prevention, reduction and control of pollution caused by land reclamation and associated coastal dredging and construction of dams.

Please, characterise the national legislative basis of and experience gained from measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution caused by land reclamation and associated coastal dredging and construction of dams in coastal and marine Caspian areas of your country.

Prevention of Introduction, Control and Combating of Invasive Alien Species (Article 12, Tehran Convention and Article 6 of the draft Protocol on Biological Diversity Conservation) (hereinafter Biodiversity Protocol)

26. Prevention of the introduction of invasive alien species to the Caspian Sea, and controlling and combating introduced invasive alien species. Regulating the introduction of alien species and prohibiting those that may have harmful impacts on the ecosystems, habitats or species as well as regulate those species already introduced which are causing or may cause damage (Article 6, Biodiversity Protocol).

Please characterize the national legislative basis for the regulation of alien species introduction into the Caspian Sea, for prohibiting the introduction of those that may have adverse impact on Caspian ecosystems, habitats or species and for the regulation of those species already introduced which are causing or may cause damage.

Please, provide relevant examples of such regulations.

Please, briefly characterise the national legislation for and experience with the prevention and control of the introduction of alien species into the Caspian Sea through ballast waters and/or via other ways.

27. Review the status of all introduced alien species into the Caspian Sea, the risks posed by them and the implementation of relevant regional Plans of Action for invasive species (Article 6 of the Biodiversity Protocol).

Please indicate the availability of specialised studies on the biology of alien species, on their impact on biodiversity in general, on socio-economic consequences of the introduction of such species as well as on their ways of intrusion to the Caspian Sea.

Does your country carry out monitoring of alien species introduction into the Caspian Sea and if yes, is it designed as an important, standalone and strategic activity? In what form and which institutions are carrying out such monitoring, who disseminates and who applies the information obtained?

Does your country support the implementation of a Regional Caspian Action Plan for species identified as invasive and if yes, in which way?

Environmental Emergencies (Article 13, Tehran Convention and Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents) (hereinafter Oil Spills Protocol)

28. Protection of human beings and the marine environment against consequences of natural or man-made emergencies. To this end, apply preventive, preparedness and response measures, including restoration measures.

National systems and contingency plans for combating oil pollution incidents (Article 13 of the Tehran Convention and Article 5, Oil Spills Protocol).

Please indicate the existence of relevant executive authorities and necessary infrastructure dealing with issues concerning the protection of human beings and the marine environment of the Caspian Sea against consequences of natural and anthropogenic incidents in your country.

Please list the legislative instruments used for this purpose.

29. Preventive and preparedness measures as well as response to incidents caused by hazardous activities. Identification of hazardous activities within the Parties' jurisdiction capable of causing environmental emergencies and notification to other Parties of such activities.

Dissemination and exchange of information (Article 13 para. 2, Tehran Convention and Article 6, Oil Spills Protocol)

Please indicate the existence of a relevant regulatory basis for preventing incidents connected with hazardous activities and list measures taken at the state level and at the level of operators for preventing such activities.

30. Setting up of early warning systems for industrial accidents and environmental emergencies. Pollution reporting procedures (Article 13 para. 3, Tehran Convention and Article 7, Oil Spills Protocol).

Please describe the system of the relevant legislation available in your country.

Does your country have an early warning system for industrial accidents and environmental emergencies operational?

Indicate the availability of any systems for integral assessments of emergency risks connected with oil spills and other technogenic incidents?

Please, provide information on the relevant incidents which took place in the reporting period and which were reported on in the first report since the Convention entered into force for which

response measures have been taken. List examples where oil pollution incidents in the Caspian Sea have been efficiently addressed.

31. Establishment and maintenance of adequate emergency preparedness measures, including measures to ensure that adequate equipment and qualified personnel are readily available, to respond to environmental emergencies.

Oil pollution emergency plans on board ships, on offshore units, in sea ports and at oil handling facilities (Article 13 para. 4 Tehran Convention and Article 9, Oil Spills Protocol).

Please, indicate the availability of relevant oil pollution emergency plans for the Caspian Sea region in your country.

Indicate the availability of necessary infrastructure and technologies for the minimization of damage resulting from accidents at oil production facilities, at oil pipelines and when transporting oil products in general.

State the availability and qualification level of personnel related to the implementation of the relevant plans in your country.

Is there consent within your country with regards to the establishment of a Caspian Regional Mechanism for preparedness, response and cooperation in combating oil pollution incidents?

32. Protection, Preservation, Restoration and Rational Use of Marine Living Resources (Article 14, Tehran Convention and draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol).

33. Rational use of biological resources of the Caspian Sea on the basis of the best scientific data available in order to:

34. Develop and increase the potential of living resources for conservation, restoration and rational use of environmental equilibrium in the course of satisfying human needs in nutrition and meeting social and economic objectives;

Please list and briefly characterize the scientific institutions in your country, which on a permanent basis are occupied with study and assessment of state of the Caspian biological resources.

Describe the methods for assessment of possible amounts of the Caspian Sea biological resources use and for identification of quotas for catchment/bagging used in your country.

Describe how does your country assess the general state of the Caspian biological resources and trends for its modification since the Convention entered into force.

How your country assess the impact of oil deposits development and marine transportation, including floating, pipelining and their operation, and other economic activities on the state of the Caspian marine bioresources?

35. Maintain or restore populations of marine species at levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors and taking into consideration relationships among species;

Please, indicate the availability of legal instruments and mechanisms, for instance, such as specialized ecological/environmental fishery requirements related to hydrocarbons development and extraction.

How does your country in general assess the state of major commercial species, as well as key species – indicators of ecosystem health, for instance the Caspian seal population?

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Indicate, what measures in the reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force, did your country take to support and restore the commercially valuable species, in particular, sturgeons?

Please indicate, does your country perform scientific studies related to the methodology and risks of artificial reproduction of sturgeons and other Caspian species, in particular, on their genetic 'pollution'?

Characterize the amounts and assess the efficiency of fry release into the Caspian Sea by the fishery enterprises of your country in the reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force.

36. Ensure that marine species are not endangered by over-exploitation;

What legal and administrative measures are implemented in your country to establish the admissible catches amounts, catchments control, as well as to prevent and counteract the illegal catchment of the Caspian Sea biological resources?

How does your country assess the state of natural spawning grounds used by the Caspian sturgeons? What measures are taken for their amelioration, and what is the efficacy of efforts undertaken?

37. Promote the development and use of selective fishing gear and practices that minimise waste in the catch of target species and that minimise by-catch of non-target species;

Please, indicate the legislative grounds used in your country, relevant methods and results from their application.

38. Protect, preserve and restore endemic, rare and endangered marine species; Measures for the protection and conservation of species (Article 14, para. 5 Biodiversity Protocol)²

Please indicate the Caspian species, which are considered in your country as endemics, rare and endangered, as well as methods for their protection, conservation, and restoration used in your country.

Describe how does your country ensure the due legal protection for key Caspian endangered species, as well as key endangered species ex-situ and in-situ?

Please, describe the major moments of practical activity of your country carried out to protect and restore rare and endangered biological species of the Caspian.

Does your country perform monitoring of endangered species?

39. Conserve biodiversity, habitats of rare and endangered species, as well as vulnerable ecosystems.

Please, provide the list of measures taken by your country to ensure conservation of rare species and vulnerable ecosystems of the Caspian.

Characterize the state of existing in your country specially protected areas at the Caspian Sea, indicating the modification of their status in the reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force.

Indicate, does your country have the bank of genetic data for key endangered Caspian species?

² The section to be revised upon adoption of the Protocol on Biological Diversity Conservation.

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Please provide information on implementation in your country of national strategies and action plans/programmes on conservation of the Caspian Sea biological diversity, as well as evaluate the efficiency of their implementation.

Present information on adoption and application in your country of ecosystem approach to the Caspian Sea and its inclusion into the relevant national plans/programmes and strategies.

40. Coastal zone management (Article 15, Tehran Convention and draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol and draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (Article 10)).

41. Development and implementation of national strategies and plans for planning and management of the land affected by proximity to the sea plans to provide a mechanism for biodiversity conservation, protected area management and sustainable and rational use of biological resources.

Integrated coastal zone management based on planning of coastal areas.

Reduction of negative impacts on coastal population and infrastructure from natural hazards.

Reduce and reverse deforestation and land degradation in the coastal areas.

Please, indicate the availability in your country of the relevant national plans/programmes on planning and management of the land affected by proximity to the sea.

What, at the view of your country, natural and anthropogenic factors are causing the most negative impact on the near Caspian area of your country?

Does your country consider the coastal areas as independent object of management in the system of the state management?

What measures are taken in your country aimed at the environmentally sustainable development of coastal areas, including combating desertification/land degradation, deforestation?

Are there principles of integrated management implemented in your country that ensure realization of multipurpose utilization of marine and coastal natural resources, including management of wetlands connected with the Caspian Sea?

42. Caspian Sea level fluctuation (Article 16, Tehran Convention).

43. Undertaking of the necessary scientific research to alleviate implications of the sea level fluctuations of the Caspian Sea.

Prevention, control, reduction and to the maximum extent possible elimination of pollution of the marine environment and coastal areas as a result of the sea level fluctuations, including the protection of oil and chemical industry facilities, as well as oil polluted lands, which are likely to be impounded, phasing-out of obsolete coastal facilities and storages (draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, Art. 10).

Development and implementation of the coastal area strategies and plans for management of land affected by proximity to the sea to provide a mechanism for biodiversity conservation, specially protected areas management and sustainable and rational use of biological resources (draft Biodiversity Conservation Protocol, Art. 12).

Initiation or intensification of specific research programmes, where necessary, related to the sea level fluctuations and the effects of such fluctuations on the Sea and coastal ecosystems (Article 20).

Please, identify what scientific studies are taken place in your country to form the forecast of the Caspian Sea level regime in a mid-term and long-term perspective?

Is the coastal areas vulnerability to the instability of the sea level taking into account in territorial planning and coastal area management in your country?

Identify, are issues related to consideration of the Caspian level regime included into the environmental legislation of your country?

What possible scenarios of the Caspian level fluctuations are considered in the coastal area management in your country?

44. Environmental Impact Assessment (Article 17, Tehran Convention, Protocol on Environment Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, as well as draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol and draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (Art. 12)).

45. Application procedures of environmental impact assessment of any planned activity, that are likely to cause significant adverse effect on the marine environment of the Caspian Sea. Dissemination of results of environmental impact assessment to other Contracting Parties. Ensure effective public participation in the EIA procedure of a proposed activity, commencing at early stage of EIA procedures (EIA Protocol, Art. 4.4).

Please indicate the availability of legislation to carry out the environmental impact assessment of proposed activity in your country, including EIA in a transboundary context.

How many projects that are likely to cause the significant adverse impact on the marine and coastal environment of the Caspian passed through the EIA procedure? Briefly summarize the results of EIA procedures in a transboundary context for the projects of activity in the near Caspian region of your country took place in the reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force.

46. *Please, describe the progress of the following procedures, envisaged by the EIA Protocol:*

- *notification by the Party to the Convention (hereinafter – Party of origin) that plans to implement the proposed activity, which may cause adverse impact on the territory of other Party or Parties to the Convention (hereinafter –affected Party), as well as invitation to participate in EIA of the proposed activity. This notification shall contain time-frame for carrying out the EIA;*
- *response of the affected Party where it informs the Party of origin if its intend to participate in EIA procedure of proposed activity;*
- *on request of the Party of origin providing by the affected Party of any reasonably available information on the environmental state at the potentially affected area of the affected Party, if such information is necessary to prepare the EIA documentation;*
- *in case the affected Party informs on its intend to participate in EIA of a proposed activity, then the Party of origin provides the EIA materials of a proposed activity to it. At the same time the affected Party arranges for public participation of its country in EIA procedure of proposed activity and provide support and consultations on EIA related issues to it;*

as for the affected Party:

- *describe the mechanism of arranging the public hearings to consider the EIA materials of a proposed activity, provide by the Party of origin (what are the procedures for public involvement at all stages of EIA, including public participation in post-project analysis of object set into operation).*

Were there consultations taken place by the Competent authorities of concerned Parties with respect to:

- *format and language, in which the EIA documentation should be provided by the Party of origin, and materials of outcomes of review by the affected Party of EIA documentation;*
- *final EIA documentation review;*

In line with the Article 10 of the EIA Protocol:

- *the Party of origin should present to the affected Party and the Secretariat the final decision on the proposed activity along with the reasons and considerations on which it was based.*

Which characteristic obstacles in arranging and implementation of EIA in a transboundary context of concrete objects of proposed activity have taken place that should be taken into consideration in future?

47. Monitoring (Article 19, Tehran Convention, draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol (Art. 9, 2.b) and draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (Art. 13, 1.c and 2)).

48. Establishment and implementation of the relevant individual and/or joint programmes for monitoring environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea.

Agreement upon a list and parameters of pollutants, which discharge into and concentration in the Caspian Sea shall be regularly monitored.

Carrying out individual or joint assessments of the environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea and the effectiveness of measures taken for the prevention, control and reduction of pollution of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea.

Harmonisation of rules for the setting up and operation of monitoring programmes, measurement systems, analytical techniques, data processing and evaluation procedures for data quality.

Monitoring of ecological systems, habitats, population dynamics, as well as the impact of human activities.

Regional assessment on a regular basis (at least once in five years) of the state of the marine environment and coastal areas of the Caspian Sea.

Collaboration in establishing elements of the regional monitoring programme as well as compatible national monitoring programmes, with analytical quality control, and to promote data storage, retrieval and exchange.

Has your country developed any legislation and institutional base to establish individual/joint programmes for monitoring of the marine environment state? If yes, please provide its brief characteristic, including list and parameters of pollutants.

Does the legislation of your country envisage monitoring of the marine environment pollution as one of the functions of the state authority? Does your country have the national programme for monitoring of the marine environment? If yes, provide its brief characteristic, including areas of monitoring, periodicity of sampling and list of pollutants controlled.

Is there an intercalibration of chemical laboratories, which participate in international and national monitoring programmes, in your country?

Does your country participate in the regional co-operation to develop the regional monitoring programme?

Does your country have developed and/or implemented monitoring programmes to assess habitats (a), population dynamics (b), landscapes (c), as well as human activity impact (d) in specially protected land/water areas?

	<i>a) habitats</i>	<i>b) population dynamics</i>	<i>c) landscapes</i>	<i>d) human activity impact</i>
<i>No</i>				
<i>No, monitoring programmes are at the early stage of development</i>				
<i>No, but monitoring programmes are at the advanced stage of</i>				

<i>development</i>				
<i>Yes, monitoring programmes are already developed/implemented (provide the details below)</i>				

What are the ways to conduct in your country the assessment(s) of the Caspian marine environment state, what components of the marine environment are included into the assessment(s) and what is its(their) periodicity?

49. Research and Development (Article 20, Tehran Convention).

50. Development or intensification, if necessary, of special research programmes (including development of methods for the assessment of the toxicity of harmful substances and investigations of its affecting process on the environment of the Caspian Sea; development and application of environmentally sound or safe technologies; the phasing out and/or substitution of substances likely to cause pollution; development of environmentally sound or safe methods for the disposal of hazardous substances; development of environmentally sound or safe techniques for water-construction works and water-regulation; assessment of the physical and financial damage resulting from pollution; improvement of knowledge about the hydrological regime and ecosystem dynamics of the Caspian Sea including sea level fluctuations and the effects of such fluctuations on the Sea and coastal ecosystems; studying the levels of radiation and radioactivity in the Caspian Sea).

Does your country have R&D on the aforementioned problems (R&D could be not obligatory within the specific programmes related to the Convention, it could be part of studies, for instance in universities)?

To what degree could the technologies applied in your country be considered as advanced and safe (in compare to the international analogues)?

51. Promotion to technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation of biodiversity and sustainable and rational use of biological resources, through the appropriate national and international institutions.

Implementation of joint projects, and research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of this Protocol (draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol, Art. 16).

Please indicate scientific and scientific-technical projects/programmes in the field of biodiversity conservation, implemented in your country in the reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force.

With what international organizations is the cooperation on this direction taken place in your country? What national institutions of your country are coordinating this activity?

52. Scientific and technological cooperation related to pollution from land-based sources and activities, particularly in research on quality and quantity of inputs, pathways, fates and effects of pollutants on the environment and on the development of new methods and techniques of pollution prevention, reduction and elimination, including the development and application of cleaner production approaches to this effect (draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, Art. 16.2).

Does your country have R&D in the field of marine environment pollution and its impact on biological objects and human?

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What national institutions are coordinating this activity, implement the cooperation and participate in the “cleaner production” programmes?

Does your country have the state programme or adopted at the stat level complex of measures aimed at the replacement of “dirty” production process with “cleaner” one?

53. Exchange of and Access to Information (Article 21, Tehran Convention, draft Protocol for the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (Art. 14 and 15), draft Biological Diversity Conservation Protocol (Art. 17 and 18), Protocol on Environment Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and Protocol Concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents (Art. 6)).

Exchange on a regular basis information, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

Ensure public access to environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea, measures taken or planned to be taken to prevent, control and reduce pollution of the Caspian Sea in accordance with their national legislation and taking into account provisions of existing international agreements concerning public access to environmental information.

Development of a centralised database and information management system to function as a repository of all relevant data, serve as the basis for decision-making and as a general source of information and education for specialists, administrators and the general public (Article 19.5).

54. *Does the legislation of your country envisage the principle of public accessibility to information on the environment?*

Has your country any policy (principles) of public accessibility to the information on the environment?

<i>No</i>	
<i>No, legislation is still in the early stage of development</i>	
<i>No, but legislation is in an advanced stage of development</i>	
<i>Yes, legislation is already in place (provide details below)</i>	

Has your country developed the appropriate institutional structures (a) or mechanisms (b) to ensure public access to information?

	<i>(a) institutional structures</i>	<i>b) mechanisms</i>
<i>No</i>		
<i>No, they are still in the early stage of development</i>		
<i>No, but they are in an advanced stage of development</i>		
<i>Yes, they are already in place (please provide details below)</i>		

55. *Please indicate does your country publish a regular report on the state of the environment in your country? If yes, please indicate its periodicity.*

Indicate, does your country have the Internet site/web-page, information of which includes data on the environment, including on addressing the issues related to the marine and coastal environment?

Doest your country consider the Tehran Convention and its existing draft Protocols as sufficient international legal basis for arranging the exchange of information on the state of Caspian Sea marine environment, including data on pollution? Is there a need in the development and adoption of international documents that concretize the amount of, order of and channels for data exchange, order for their storage and arrangement of their accessibility?

Part 3. Implementation of COP Resolutions, Decisions

Please provide information about measures undertaken by your country relating to recent COP Resolutions and Decisions since the last Report, if applicable.

Part 4. General Conclusions and recommendations

56. *In this part the Parties are invited to provide the general assessment of would the Convention implementation in the country promote to increase the efficiency of activity on the protection of the Caspian marine environment against pollution, including the protection, conservation, restoration, sustainable and rational use of its biological diversity.*

57. *Based on the information provided above by your country, please assess the degree of implementation by your country of the provisions of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols for the current reporting period, and for the first report – since the Convention entered into force, as well as state the priority from the point of your country's view of activity directions for the sequent reporting period.*

58. *Please, provide the proposals listing the measures/activities that are necessary to take at the national level aimed at the further activation of the Convention implementation.*